

The supply along the shore at the dates mentioned is so abundant that it can be easily provided for class use in most of the laboratories of the country. This year the plant appeared with the gale of October 23, the earliest date noted, and the specimens were the largest yet found.—
C. B. ATWELL, *Evanston, Ill.*

Preliminary note on the synonymy of *Entothrix grande* Wolle.—Two years ago, through the kindness of Rev. Francis Wolle, Bethlehem, Penn., I received specimens of his *Entothrix grande*. Upon a careful microscopic examination of the material I found it to be an undescribed species of *Lemanea*. I have also had an opportunity, through the courtesy of Dr. Farlow, while at his laboratory during the past summer, of verifying my observation by an examination of *Entothrix grande* Wolle, Rab. Alg. Europ. no. 2538. The species belongs to the section of the *Lemaneaceæ*, for which Sirodot¹ retained the generic name *Lemanea* Bory. The dense coil of enveloping filaments which surround the central axis of the tube, as well as the two or three layers of cells in the cortex, shows the affinity of this species with *Lemanea catenata* Kütz. and *L. nodosa* Kütz. If the enveloping filaments of the central axis are carefully dissected away one could not fail to see the *Lemanea* structure. Mr. Wolle erred² also in associating it generically with Harvey's³ *Tuomeya fluviatilis*. I have also to acknowledge the favor of Dr. Farlow in permitting me to examine type specimens of *Tuomeya fluviatilis* Harv. from Harvey's herbarium. Wolle's figure⁴ of *Tuomeya fluviatilis*, which, by the way, he states is ideal, since he did not have an opportunity of examining specimens, bears not the slightest resemblance to the habit of the type species, which is more nearly that of *Batrachospermum moniliforme*, while it is also more nearly related to *Batrachospermum* in structure.

I hope in a forthcoming paper to give a more detailed account of the structure of *Lemanea grandis* than can be given here. I have arranged the synonymy as follows:

LEMANEA GRANDIS Atk.

Syn. *Entothrix grande* Wolle, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club, Nov. 1877.

Entothrix grande Wolle, Rab. Alg. Europ. 2538.

Tuomeya grande Wolle., Fresh Water Alg. U. S. pl. 66, figs. 2-8.—GEO. F. ATKINSON, *Auburn, Alabama.*

EDITORIAL.

Every botanist must rejoice at the grand provision that the late Mr. Henry Shaw has made for the promotion of botanical science in this country. As is doubtless known to every reader the largest part of Mr.

¹ Étude sur la Algues d'eau douce de la Famille *Lemaneaceæ*, Ann. d. Sci. 5th Ser. Bot. xvi, Paris, 1872.

² Fresh water algæ of the U. S., 1887.

³ Nereis Bor. Am. III, pp. 66-67, Smithson. Cont. x, 1857.

⁴ Fresh water algæ of the U. S., 1887.

Shaw's immense fortune (estimated from three to five millions) was left as an endowment of the botanic garden and the school of botany which have borne his name. Provision was made in the will for the administration of this trust by a self-perpetuating board of trustees. Some fear was felt that the magnificent garden would be given to the city of St. Louis, in which case there was little hope that it would prove any more helpful to scientific study than has the public garden of Boston. But the dispositions made by the will are all that could be desired, and the plans now sketched by the trustees are full of brightest promise. In such plans we unite, with all our readers, in bidding them Godspeed.

Here is the first large endowment of botanical research that this new country has seen, and the outcome will be looked for with profound interest. Of necessity, the policy of the trustees can only be outlined at this time, but we think all will agree that the lines are struck boldly on the canvas and that they indicate a most pleasing picture. Naturally the development must be slow. Such broad lines as these can not be filled in in a day or a year, but we hope that they will be steadily kept in view.

In the development of these plans the personality of the director of the garden is an important factor, as it evidently has been in their inception. The GAZETTE has rarely felt it proper to say anything personal, but it is justified in saying now that Mr. Shaw made no mistake in naming Dr. William Trelease as the first director of the Missouri Botanic Garden. The pre-eminently needed quality at this stage of the history of the garden is *many-sidedness*, and those who know Dr. Trelease best know that he fulfills this need. Not only has his training and experience been varied, but his investigations have been in several diverse fields, in each of which his contributions have been of incontestable value. The fact that he has thus been able to do valuable work in several lines, that he is a trained investigator, and that he is an experienced teacher, give him opportunity for a broad grasp of the problem of the best development of the garden that would be impossible for a narrower specialist. We sincerely hope that he will always have the earnest support of the trustees and the cordial co-operation of all botanists in every effort for the development of what, if rightly administered, must become a splendid center of botanical research.

OPEN LETTERS.

Eragrostis and *Molinia*.

Referring to the letter of Mr. Jared G. Smith in the September GAZETTE, I would say that the discovery of the grasses named (*Melica Porteri* and *Eragrostis pilifera*) within his state, is an interesting fact extending the northern range of these species, but I can not understand how this *Eragrostis* could have suggested a relationship with *Molinia*. I fail